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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Takayuki SAWADA et al.  
Title: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS  
Appl. No.: To Be Assigned  
Filing Date: August 21, 2001  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: Unassigned



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
Box PATENT APPLICATION  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

Document A5 discloses that the India ink and the basic color are switched in accordance with the result of black-and-white/color determination (4-stage evolution).

Document A6 discloses that the India ink and the basic color are switched in accordance with the result of chromatic color/achromatic color determination (4-stage evolution).

Document A7 discloses that the amount of the India ink and that of the basic-color are determined in accordance with the chroma of HVC.

English translations of documents A5-A7 are not readily available; however, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted documents (37 C.F.R. § 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609). English language abstracts are provided for documents A5-A7. Applicants also note that document A1 is a U.S. patent counterpart to document A6, and document A2 is a U.S. patent counterpart to document A7.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

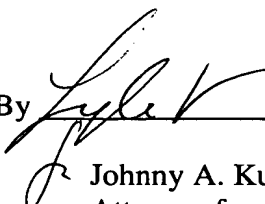
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or

even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to  
Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date August 21, 2001

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Form PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 016907-1262		SERIAL NO. To Be Assigned	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b>  <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				APPLICANT Takayuki SAWADA et al.			
				FILING DATE August 21, 2001		GROUP ART UNIT Unassigned	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A1	5,357,353	10/18/1994	Hirota	358	530	
	A2	5,398,124	03/14/1995	Hirota	358	530	
<b>U.S. PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A3	09/651,283		Tabata			08/30/2000
	A4	09/521,950		Tabata			03/09/2000
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	A5	4-200171	07/21/1992	Japan			Abstract
	A6	4-341061	11/27/1992	Japan			Abstract
	A7	5-14696	01/22/1993	Japan			Abstract
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>							
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			
* <b>EXAMINER:</b> Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include any copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

